
If you believe you are eligible to vote and encounter difficulty registering, please contact the election administration office of the Nevada Secretary of State:

101 North Carson Street, Suite 3
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 684-5705 (voice)
(775) 684-5718 (fax)
www.sos.state.nv.us/nvelection

If the Nevada Secretary of State is unable to help you, or to report a problem, contact:

U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Voting Section, Rm. 7254 - NWB
Washington, D.C. 20530
(202) 307-2767 (voice)
(800) 253-3931 (toll-free)
(202) 307-3961 (fax)
www.usdoj.gov/crt

This pamphlet is provided for informational purposes only, as an aid to further inquiry. The laws in many states are revised frequently, and may have changed since this pamphlet was issued. It is your responsibility to determine whether you are lawfully eligible to vote, and criminal penalties can result from voting when ineligible or making false statements on a registration form.

Issued December, 2000

U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division



Restoring Your Right to Vote



The right to vote is an important civil right in a democracy as well as a civic responsibility, and yet many persons who have been convicted of a crime do not know whether they are eligible to vote. For both federal and state elections, the right to vote is controlled by the law of the state in which you live. Some states restrict the right to vote for persons who have been convicted of a crime. This pamphlet is intended to help you determine whether you are eligible to vote in the state in which you live, and if so, what steps you must take to be permitted to vote.

What law governs whether my felony conviction limits my right to vote?

The impact of a criminal conviction on the right to vote varies widely from state to state. Whether you can vote after being convicted of a crime is determined by the state in which you live, not the state in which you were convicted.

Can I vote while I'm incarcerated in Nevada?

If you are a resident of Nevada, you cannot vote in Nevada elections while you are incarcerated as a result of conviction for treason or for a felony. If you are a resident of another state who is temporarily incarcerated in Nevada, you may be able to vote by absentee ballot in your home state. You need to consult the law of your home state regarding both criminal convictions and absentee ballots to see if this is a possibility.

I have been released from incarceration. How do I restore my right to vote?

If you were convicted in Nevada, you must obtain a restoration of your civil rights before you will be eligible to vote.

Anyone convicted of a crime in Nevada may apply for a pardon from the State Board of

Pardons Commissioners. A pardon only restores the right to vote if it expressly states that it restores civil rights.

To apply, you may contact:

Nevada Parole and Probation
1445 Hot Springs Road
Carson City, NV 89710
(775) 687-5040 (voice)
(775) 687-5402 (fax)
www.state.nv.us/dmv_ps/pphome.html

In addition, if you have successfully completed parole, you may apply for restoration of your civil rights to the State Board of Parole Commissioners. If you were sentenced to probation and honorably discharged, you may apply to the Division of Parole and Probation of the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety, or may petition the court in which you were convicted. Finally, if you served your full sentence of imprisonment more than 5 years ago and have not been convicted of anything greater than a traffic violation since your release, you may also apply to the Division of Parole and Probation of the Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety, and it may petition the district court for restoration of your rights (or you can petition the court after providing notice to the Division).

What if my conviction was for a federal crime or a crime in another state?

In Nevada, you cannot vote if you were convicted of a felony under federal law or in another state unless you have obtained restoration of your civil rights in the jurisdiction where you were convicted. If you were convicted by the courts of another state, you should contact the Governor's office of that state to determine what procedures

apply. If you were convicted of a federal crime, you may contact:

Office of Pardon Attorney
United States Department of Justice
500 First Street, N.W., 4th floor
Washington, D.C. 20530

What happens if I move to another state?

If you move to another state, your right to vote will be controlled by the laws of that state.

What are Nevada's other voter registration requirements?

To vote in Nevada, you must be a U.S. citizen, be at least 18 years of age (or turn 18 by the next election), be a resident of Nevada for 30 days preceding the election, and not have been declared insane.

When do I need to register to vote?

You can register any time. However, in order to vote in an election, you must be registered at least 30 days before that election.

Where do I go to register?

Registration is available at many places in Nevada, including your County Clerk's office, state service agencies, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the Welfare Division.